

# Matthew 8:1-13

## *Application Questions*

1. After Jesus taught the Sermon on the Mount, multitudes followed Him. What do you suppose attracted them? What are some ways we can attract others to Jesus? How do Christians sometimes repel others from Jesus?
2. Take a few moments to put yourself in the place of the leper. He was ostracized from society, from his family, and from the temple. What risks did the leper take in drawing near to Jesus and worshiping Him? How do you think he felt when Jesus touched him? How difficult would it have been to say nothing about his cleansing but instead to bring his offerings to the priest? (Consider that the distance from Capernaum to the temple in Jerusalem was about 80 miles.)
3. What does Jesus' willingness to cleanse the leper tell us about His attitude toward sinners? (See Matthew 18:12-14, Luke 19:10, Luke 23:39-43, John 6:37, John 8:10-11.)
4. According to Luke 7:5, the centurion loved Israel and built a synagogue in Capernaum. How do you think this prepared him to trust in Jesus and plead for a miracle for his servant? Why do you think Jesus marveled at his faith and said it was the greatest He had seen? What role does faith have in receiving God's blessings?
5. What are your takeaways from Matthew 8 about God's willingness and ability to answer our prayers? Do you have any audacious prayer requests that require great faith? Do you believe God is willing and able? Are you willing to ask Him in faith and keep on asking until the answer comes?